

Claims:

1-20 (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method for infusing resin into a textile preform, the method comprising:

(a) providing a woven, textile preform having a base with first and second surfaces on opposite sides and a leg extending from a central portion of the base, the leg having first and second surfaces on opposite sides;

(b) inserting a barrier between the first surface of the base and the first surface of the leg;

(c) placing a resin film in contact with one of the surfaces of the base;

(d) placing a resin film in contact with one of the surfaces of the leg; and

(e) applying heat and pressure to the resin films to infuse resin into the base and the leg.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:

step (e) comprises limiting the heat and pressure so as to avoid fully curing the resin.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein:

step (e) comprises enclosing the preform, resin films, and barriers with a vacuum diaphragm and evacuating the diaphragm to apply pressure to the ~~perform~~ preform, resin films and barriers.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein:

step (c) comprises placing the resin film in contact with the second surface of the base.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for infusing resin into a textile preform, the method comprising:

(a) providing a woven, textile preform having a base with first and second surfaces on opposite sides and a leg extending from a central portion of the base, the leg having a first surface and a second surface;

(b) inserting a barrier sheet between a first surface of the base and the first surface of the leg;

(c) placing a resin film in contact with one of the surfaces of the base;

(d) placing a resin film in contact with at least one of the surfaces of the leg; then

(e) surrounding the preform and resin films with a flexible vacuum diaphragm, and evacuating the diaphragm to apply pressure to the resin films; and

(f) applying heat to the resin films for a time and temperature sufficient to infuse the ~~perform~~ preform with resin.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

step (c) comprises placing the resin film in contact with the second surface of the base.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

step (e) further comprises surrounding the preform, resin films, and barrier sheets with a vent material.

28. (Previously Presented) A method for infusing resin into a textile preform, the method comprising:

(a) providing a woven, textile preform having a base and a leg, the base and the leg each having first and second surfaces on opposite sides;

(b) folding the leg such that the first surface of the leg is substantially parallel to and overlying the first surface of the base;

(c) inserting a barrier sheet between the first surface of the base and the first surface of the leg;

(d) placing a resin film in contact with one of the surfaces of the base;

(e) placing a resin film in contact with at least one of the surfaces of each leg; then

(f) surrounding the preform and resin films with a vacuum bag to apply pressure to the resin film; and

(g) applying heat to the resin film.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein step (d) comprises placing the resin film in contact with the second surface of the base.

30. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 28, wherein step (e) comprises placing the resin film in contact with the first surface of the leg.